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Imagery analysis report

Tigercat SAM Deployments at Esfahan Thermal Power Plant, Steel Plant, Iran (TSR).

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TIGERCAT SAM DEPLOYMENTS AT ESFAHAN THERMAL POWER PLANT, STEEL PLANT, IRAN (TSR)

1. (TSR) The Tigercat SAM system was observed deployed near Esfahan, Iran, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This was the first confirmed observation of the Tigercat in Iran in nearly ten years. Three Tigercat SAM deployments, each consisting of a launcher trailer with a full complement of three missiles and a control/director trailer, were around the northwest end of the Esfahan Thermal Power Plant, Steel Plant [REDACTED] 19 nautical miles southwest of Esfahan (Figure 1). Four ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns supplied additional air defense for the plant, which is probably the sole steel production plant remaining in operation in Iran since early in the Iran/Iraq conflict when extensive damage was inflicted on the Ahvaz Steel Plant [REDACTED]

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2. (TSR) The Tigercat SAM system was known to have been in the Iranian inventory in the early 1970s, but the system's location in the intervening years was unknown. A possible Tigercat SAM deployment was tentatively identified in south-central Esfahan in late May 1980.

3. (TSR) Compact and mobile, the Tigercat is a British close-range tactical guided missile, 1.48 meters in length, with a high-explosive warhead.¹ A firing unit (Figure 2) consists of a control/director trailer, a launcher trailer with three missiles (Figure 3), and two towing vehicles.

REFERENCE

DOCUMENT

1. *Jane's Weapons Systems*. 1980–1981, 11th ed (UNCLASSIFIED)

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [REDACTED] Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [REDACTED]

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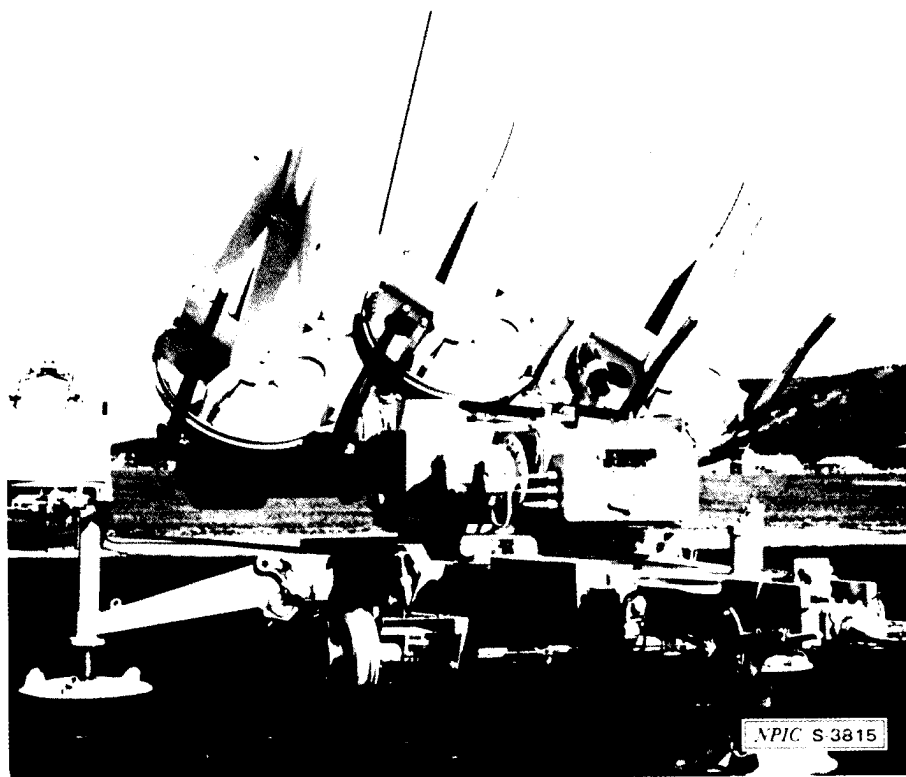


FIGURE 3. TIGERCAT LAUNCHER WITH MISSILES. Photograph taken from Jane's Weapons Systems, 1976 (UNCLASSIFIED)

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[REDACTED]

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